CONSTELLATION

A publication of the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
Volume 27, Number 5 May 2001

In this issue

page 3 Caldwell goes to Europe

pages 4 & 5 Field offices, continued

page 6 & 7 DC Schools project

page 8 Sleep, sleep, sleep

page 9Courteous employee

More than Baltimore

District employees work at field offices, too

by Mary Beth Thompson Public Affairs Office

altimore District makes its home base in the city of that name, but not all of its employees work there. The District employs people all across its area of responsibility at 14 dams and lakes, three offices that maintain flood protection projects, four area offices, nine resident offices, 12 project offices, six field offices and two water treatment plants.

The District's civil works boundaries cover roughly 50,000 square miles—the watersheds of the Susquehanna and Potomac rivers and the Chesapeake Bay north of the Maryland-Virginia line.

Its military works boundaries take in about 80,000 square miles—including 19 active military installations and 355 formerly used defense sites.

To serve this territory, about 400 of its approximately 1,100 employees report to workplaces outside of the City Crescent

Building in Baltimore. Here's where they are and what they do:

Construction work

The Corps of Engineers designs and manages construction projects for the U.S. military and for other government agencies.

These projects include housing, schools, hospitals, day care centers, offices, laboratories, warehouses, training facilities, monuments and anything else that needs to be built, renovated, torn down or moved.

The area, resident and project offices located throughout the District act

as the district engineer's representatives for construction in their geographic areas or for a specific project.

The people who work in these offices manage the many thousands of aspects of each construction undertaking. Their goals are to build Corps projects according to plans, safely, on time and within budget.

To manage construction projects, Baltimore District's Construction Division employs people at four area offices, nine resident offices, 11 project

offices and one field office.

A few offices have specific missions different from the rest. The Environmental Remediation office manages the District's efforts to remove hazardous, toxic or radioactive waste in Maryland and Delaware. And one of the area offices along with a field office form part of the regional business center dedicated to the District's work with D.C. Public Schools.



The tower at Whitney Point Dam

(continued on p. 4)

CONSTELLATION

May 2001



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District

http:// www.nab.usace.army.mil

Constellation is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1 and published monthly by the Public Affairs Office. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Md. 21203-1715. Telephone: (410) 962-2809; fax: (410) 962-3660. It is printed on recyclable paper; press run 1,800. All manuscripts submitted are subject to editing and rewriting. Material from this publication may be reproduced withoutpermission. Views/opinions are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

District Engineer Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr.

Public Affairs Chief Lucy Lather

Contributors: Doug Garman Mary Beth Thompson Marshall Hudson Ted Henry Darlene Mancini



Commander's Comment

Field offices as customers

by Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr. Commander & District Engineer

I once heard a public relations expert say that companies often forget their most important audience when developing their corporate messages.

So, who is the most important audience? Not the external customers or the shareholders, as you might suspect. It is the employees—the internal audience, who, in a sense, are also customers.

That statement may surprise you, yet the reason is rather simple. All of the employees must be onboard with what a company or organization is trying to accomplish. Employees need to understand and be working toward the corporate goals in order for them to be achieved.

You've undoubtedly heard the old Ford Motor advertising slogan, "Quality is Job One." Would the automaker have been successful in persuading its customers that producing a quality product was its most important goal if the management hadn't convinced its employees first?

I don't think so.

How can we apply this message to the Baltimore District?

Simply, we can put some intensified focus on our internal customers—the park ranger who has an error on his leave and earnings statement: the dam operator who calls for a safety inspection; the park manager who needs a lease negotiated; the wetlands delineator in Pennsylvania who seeks a legal review of documents; the Washington Aqueduct microbiologist who requests a new gas chromatograph mass spectrometer; the civil engineer in an area office who requires funding to complete a job; the construction representative in a resident office who asks for training to improve performance and for advancement.

The internal customer relationship is key in the contact between those who work in the City Crescent Building in Baltimore and those who work in the District's field offices.

Our customers are important. An issue that may not seem very pressing to us often is quite urgent to them. What are we telling them when we are slow to reply?

They deserve more than "when-we-have-time" responses. They merit a sense of urgency from us. They need to know we are willing and able to take care of their needs quickly and efficiently.

I urge you to take the time to put thought and effort into your responses to internal customers. Return phone calls. Listen to ideas and consider them seriously.

After I'd been here just a short time and had a chance to talk with some of our external customers and senior leaders, I described Baltimore District as the "first team." By that I meant that our reputation for responsiveness and reliability earns respect. Our location and our workload often put us in a position to be the forerunner for the rest of the Corps.

Here's another chance for us to lead the way—by improving our communication with, and the timeliness of our support to, the field. We can earn the respect of our fellow employees with our responsiveness and reliability.

We can become the **first team** when it comes to taking care of our internal customers, and we must.

Essayons.

Caldwell moves on

by Marshall Hudson

loyd C. Caldwell, chief of Construction Division, left Baltimore District April 13 to become the deputy district engineer for Project Management for Europe District in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Caldwell said it's hard to leave Baltimore, but he's enthusiastic about his new job in Germany. "They have a great program, and it's a great place to live and work for a while," he said.

Caldwell's wife of 32 years, Jackie, will be going with him. "The first thing you have to do to before you can make a change like this is to get your wife's permission," he joked. "Seriously, we've lived in the same community for 18 years, so it's tough.

"Even so, she has been very supportive about this, just as she has been for my whole career. She adapts very well to new situations." Their three children are grown and won't be going. The older two have families of their own, but he said they hope that their youngest son, who currently attends the University of Maryland, will be spending some time with them in Europe.

Caldwell began his association with the Corps of Engineers as a U.S. Army captain at Norfolk District. After his discharge in 1972, he came to Baltimore district as an area engineer and has been here ever since.

Caldwell said there have been so many good memories, so many exciting things that have happened while he was in the Baltimore District, he couldn't single out any one thing as the best.

"It's all been so rewarding. I had a great civil works experience at the Tioga-Hammand Dam and as the Cowanesque engineer. But I also think about how much I like the job I'm leaving, and how fantastic my experience at the

Washington Aqueduct was and at the Pentagon renovation and going to Kosovo — and so many others that I'm sure I'm leaving something out. My career here has had such diversity; it's all been great."

Caldwell predicted Baltimore District has a bright future.

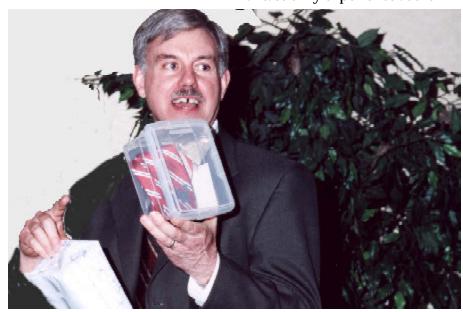
"I think that it will continue to have a healthy workload and remain strong. The people here are great professionals, more so than they sometimes realize. They are adaptable, dedicated, and good at their business. They should think well of themselves because it is a great team," he said.

aldwell's final thoughts were praise for his co-workers in the Construction Division. "I'm constantly amazed at how well they do things. My secretary, the management assistant, the branch chiefs and the rest of the staff in Construction are just fantastic," he said.

At his farewell luncheon April 10, Caldwell thanked the many retirees who had been mentors to him, the employees who served in Kosovo and his colleagues who had worked on many projects during his years in the District.

He said he was going to Germany because there was a new and exciting job to be done. Although he said he would miss the Baltimore Corps family, he looked forward to the challenge.

Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr. district engineer, presented Caldwell with the superior civilian service award.



At his farewell luncheon, Lloyd Caldwell shows a tie he received, a symbol of his emphasis on professionalism. (Photo by Susanne Bledsoe)

Baltimore District field offices

(continued from cover)

Pennsylvania
Allegheny Mountain
Resident Office

Duncansville

Carlisle Project Office

Carlisle Barracks

Harrisburg Area Office New

Cumberland

Letterkenny Project Office

Letterkenny Army Depot

New Cumberland Resident Office

New Cumberland

Northeastern Resident Office

Tobyhanna

Western Project Office

Coraopolis

Wyoming Valley Project Office

Wilkes Barre

Maryland
Aberdeen
Project Office

Aberdeen Proving Ground

Bay Area Office

Fort Meade

D.C. Metro

Resident Office

Silver Spring

Environmental Remediation Resident Office

Aberdeen Proving Ground

Fort Detrick Resident Office

Fort Detrick

Forts Ritchie and Detrick Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste Project Office

Fort Detrick

Lauderick Creek Project Office

Aberdeen Proving Ground

District of Columbia/Virginia

Aqueduct Project Office

Washington



Jennings Randolph Lake

Capital Area Office

Fort Belvoir

Drug Enforcement Agency Project Office

Sterling

Environmental Protection Agency Projects Resident Office

Washington

Fort Belvoir Resident Office

Fort Belvoir

Fort Myer Resident Office

Fort Myer

General Accounting Office
Project Office

Washington

Central Washington Area Office

Washington

Penn Center Forward Deployed Field Office

Washington

Corps dams

The Corps builds and maintains dams for flood protection. When the water is high, the dams hold the excess in reservoirs. The dam operators gradually release water to prevent or reduce downstream flooding.

These projects provide the

public with recreation as well as safety, water storage and environmental benefits.

Many of the lakes and reservoirs formed by Corps dams afford boating, swimming and fishing. Their shores offer picnicking, camping and hiking. The land and waters are managed to improve water quality, fish, wildlife and forestry.

The project managers may also maintain other federal and local flood control projects.

To look after its dams, Baltimore District's Operations
Division retains people at 14
dams and three offices, which
oversee several other sites. In
the list below, the project name
is followed by the county in
which it is located; the offices by
the town.

New York Arkport Dam

Steuben

Almond Lake

Steuben

East Sidney Lake

Delaware

Whitney Point Lake

Broome

Whitney Point Office

Whitney Point Village

Pennsylvania

Alvin R. Bush Dam

Clinton

Aylesworth Creek Lake

Lackawanna

Cowanesque Lake

Tioga

Curwensville Lake

Clearfield

Foster J. Sayers Dam

Centre

Indian Rock Dam

York

Raystown Lake

Huntingdon

Stillwater Lake

Susquehanna

Tioga-Hammond Lakes

Tioga

Lock Haven Office

Lock Haven

Susquehanna River

Section Office

Danville

West Virginia-Maryland

Jennings Randolph Lake

Mineral County, W.Va. and Garrett County, Md.

Regulatory responsibilities

Certain laws passed by Congress, notably the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and the Clean Water Act, placed regulatory responsibilities on the Department of the Army.

The Corps carries out these duties. The Corps evaluates requests for permits to place dredged or fill material or structures in U.S. waters.

In granting or denying permits, the Corps strives to promote the public interest. It balances the need to prevent environmental damage and the

requirements of economic development.

Corps regulators work closely with other federal state and local agencies and consult environmental groups and the community.

If a permit is issued, the Corps inspects the work to ensure that requirements are followed.

Corps employees also inspect all federal waters, including wetlands, to enforce those Acts of Congress.

The boundaries of Baltimore District encompass many U.S. waterways and wetlands. In addition to the regulators who work out of Baltimore, the District employs others at three field offices.

Pennsylvania

Regulatory Field Office

Carlisle

Regulatory Field Office

State College

Maryland

Regulatory Field Office

Easton

Navigation channels

Operations Division maintains federal rivers and harbors projects in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

Staff members working out of the Fort McHenry office use Corps boats to survey navigation channels to determine the need for maintenance dredging.

In addition, debris removal personnel at Fort McHenry and the District of Columbia get rid of trash and wrecks that could obstruct navigation in the harbors of Baltimore and Washington. The Washington team controls the tidal gates at the Tidal Basin, too.

Operations Division also operates a project office to oversee placement of dredged material

from the Port of Baltimore that is being used to create fish and wildlife habitat at Poplar Island.

Maryland

Navigation Field Office

Fort McHenry

Poplar Island Project Office

Poplar Island

District of Columbia Debris Removal Facility

Washington

Real estate services

The Realty Services Field Office is located in Linthicum, Md. It provides real estate, design and construction services to the National Security Agency and other federal activities with sensitive missions.

Capital water supply

The Washington Aqueduct Division collects, purifies and distributes potable water to over one million customers in the District of Columbia and northern Virginia.

This mission goes back to 1852, when Montgomery C. Meigs, then a Corps of Engineers lieutenant, recommended a plan to Congress to build a large conduit to draw water from the Potomac River and provide it to Washington. The city used only springs, streams and wells at that time.

Congress adopted Meigs plan. It put the Corps in charge of its construction and operation. The system the Corps built was named the Washington Aqueduct.

The Washington Aqueduct operates from two locations in the District of Columbia.

Dalecarlia Treatment Plant

Washington

McMillan Treatment Plant

Washington

Corps people: improving schools for the children

by Mary Beth Thompson

Editor's note: The first in a two-part series, this article focuses on Corps employees who work in the field on the D.C. Public Schools program.

hen the knights of the Round Table were not battling King Arthur's enemies, they were slaying dragons on the home front. When the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers isn't supporting the military, responding to disasters, regulating U.S. waters or cleaning up environmental contamination—it's improving the educational surroundings for children in the nation's capital.

In 1997, the District of Columbia Public School system, or DCPS, faced enormous facilities problems. Roofs leaked. Windows would not operate. Lighting was inadequate. Mechanical systems were breaking, and restrooms contained broken fixtures. Structures failed to meet codes and standards.

Safety problems even delayed the start of the school year.

Corps involvement

The Corps has handled major construction projects for the federal government for a couple of centuries. That tradition and experience has forged an unsurpassed depth of engineering knowledge. So when a former head of the DCPS system came to the Corps for help in early 1998, it was viewed as another support-for-others program.

With the blessing of Congress, the Corps' Baltimore District accepted the substantial challenge of repairing and updating nearly 150 schools while the schools remained in full operation.

"The schools were neglected

for 30 years," said Dennis J. Pritchett, the area engineer in charge of construction for the DCPS program. "Now, everybody is signed up to do this, and we are making a big difference."

For three years, the Corps has worked closely with the DCPS facilities staff. School has opened on time each of those years. Much has been accomplished. Much remains to be done.

Dozens of schools have received new roofs, windows, heating plants, air-conditioning systems and asbestos abatement. Several dozen similar jobs are in progress. Twelve whole-school modernization projects are under way. Four of those are on a fast track with a target completion date of July 2002.

While those responsibilities move forward, unexpected problems occur that require immediate attention.

"Emergencies happen every day that directly affect the students," said Rhonda A.
Sturdavant, chief of the Corps'
DCPS contracting team. "For example, if a chimney is struck by lightning, that creates a safety code violation and has to be repaired at once." There are people on call at night and on weekends to deal with such emergencies.

"That's why we walk around with cell phones 24 hours a day," she said.

High visibility

Congress, other elements of the D.C. government, the news media and the public all scrutinize the Corps' DCPS program. There is pressure to move faster, criticism that it's costly or that it's just wrong that the Corps is involved.

The negative stories in the

news media have been especially grating to Corps employees who work on the program, because they believe that articles have distorted the facts and ignored the value of their contributions.

"It's frustrating to read a news article that says the Corps is not doing this or not doing that," said Patricia K. Pope, the secretary at Central Washington Area Office, or CWAO. "We are working here; we are working hard."

Project engineer Robert C. Wilson described a quick turnaround undertaking at River Terrace Elementary. A court had ordered the school to be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act in just two months. The Corps succeeded in getting it done, but media coverage was downbeat.

"We're trying to help the kids, and they make it look like we're bad guys," Wilson said.

Successes

In fact, Corps employees point to many successes. The foremost is getting the schools open and running on time three years in a row. Each achievement followed summers that were fully packed with projects to correct serious problems and improve conditions for the school children.

"We had to bust our rears to do it, but schools opened on time that first year and each year since," Pope said.

And there are other successes. Rolando Sanidad, acting chief



Dennis Pritchett



Rhonda Sturdavant

of office engineering and contract administration for CWAO, described conditions in certain bathrooms at Cardozo Senior High. Urinals were broken from the wall, toilets were unusable, and sewers had backed up.

"I saw the conditions before, and I saw them after," Sanidad said. "I saw the principal's smiles, the kids' smiles. The teachers and staff have been looking at it a long time; finally, they see results."

"What we're doing cannot always be seen," said industrial hygienist Craig M. Georg who manages the asbestos program. "We're working in crawl spaces and dirty, muddy places."

Like most of the schools, Malcolm X Elementary was built when asbestos was a common building material. A water leak flooded that entire school, contaminating it with asbestos debris from the ceiling tiles, Georg said. Six months later, the school had been cleaned of the debris and given new walls, floors and ceilings.

"It made a huge impact on that school," he said.

Daniel A. Oswald, who is in charge of heating, ventilation and air conditioning, or HVAC, cited the effort to establish HVAC design standards.

"There are 150 schools, but we don't want 150 systems," Oswald said. The customer did not have experience with the various steps



Workers replace windows at MacFarland Middle School in Washington.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District photos

involved in setting standards. Oswald worked through the process with them. They've selected three very similar systems that will work in renovation and new construction.

"At Woodson (Senior High), we had 60 days to do a terribly difficult roofing job," Pritchett said.
"We hired a good contractor, but it rained 27 of the 60 days. We still got enough of it done, so we could have the kids back in the school on time. People who aren't familiar with the challenge of doing a job like that don't understand what an achievement that was," he said.

Challenges

To say the Corps faces a myriad of challenges in the DCPS program is putting it mildly.

The DCPS team carries a huge load of complex projects. They work at a tempo that one employee described as doing 60 hours of work in 40 hours.

They are applying federal standards of construction and procurement where they have not been used previously.

The schools remain in operation while the work is being done. The children, the staff and the public need to be kept safe while functioning in aged, asbestos-ridden buildings and during construction.

Permits must be obtained. Coordination with elements of the D.C. government, such as the fire, police, health, and consumer and regulatory departments is required. Permissions to use adjacent properties as staging areas in this densely packed, urban environment are needed.

These challenges can be made more frustrating when dealing with sometimes-recalcitrant agency staffs with agendas they consider more important.

"The system is, at times, its own worst enemy," said Wilson citing permitting paperwork and procedures that slow progress.

Many additional employees are needed to successfully accomplish the program, and that presents another challenge. The workload is increasing rapidly and will reach a peak in the next few months.

"We are recruiting," Sanidad said. It's not easy, because some people find the District of Columbia to be an unattractive place to work, he explained.

Others think it's a temporary program and don't want to give up what they have, Pritchett said. He pointed out that the Corps will be there for a few more years.

Results

"I've worked for the Corps of Engineers for 26 years," Pritchett said. "Throughout my career, I've supported the national defense, but I've never been out there helping kids before. We're building the nation in a different way—helping future leaders get a better education," he said.

Other DCPS team members echo Pritchett's words.

"Every school needs a safe environment for children to learn," Pope said.

As Sanidad summed up, "It's all for the kids."



Craig Georg



Rolando Sanidad



Robert Wilson



Patricia Pope



Daniel Oswald

May is 'Better Sleep' Month

by Marshall Hudson Public Affiars Office

The average person needs seven to eight hours of sleep a night, but less than half of American adults are getting that amount, reports a study done by the Better Sleep Council.

This widespread sleep deprivation causes accidents, mis-

takes, lost productivity on the job, and negatively effects relationships and quality of life.

The council is hoping to reduce this problem by proclaiming May "Better Sleep Month," as part of a public service campaign to heighten awareness of the condition that exists every day

throughout the country.

"Sleep debt is potentially the most costly problem to our society in terms of both dollars and human suffering," said Dr. William Dement, director of Stanford University's Sleep Disorder Clinic and Research Center.

The National Commission on Sleep Disorders Research estimates that direct costs to the United States related to a lack of sleep was \$15.9 billion for the year 1990.

Like eating and exercising, sleeping well should be a health priority because it is essential to feeling your best during the day. While you sleep, your brain goes to work, consolidating the days learning into memory and reenergizing the body.

If you are usually tired during the day, if you need to nap regularly, or if you sleep much longer on the weekends than during the week, you aren't getting the sleep you need. The

127

Americans consume about 183 billion cups of coffee a year. We're not bored or lazy, we're just tired!

only way to eliminate the "sleep debt" is to sleep as much as your body needs every night.

If you can't say "yes" to enough sleep, make sure to make the most out of the sleep you do get.

Exercise regularly—people who exercise a few times a week sleep better than people who don't.

Also, avoid caffeine, alcohol and tobacco products late in the day because they can keep you awake.

You should create a good sleep environment, so the sleep you get is restorative and uninterrupted.

You should sleep in a dark,

quiet room, on a comfortable, supportive mattress.

Keep the room cool; the best temperature range for good sleep is 60-65 degrees.

If you find yourself too stressed to sleep, make a list of all the things you need to do. Once you have made your todo list, give yourself permission to relax and sleep.

> You'll need the energy to tackle your tasks in the morning.

If you are going to bed in time to get the sleep you need, but are having trouble sleeping, try going to bed and getting up at the same time every day—even on the weekends. This will

help to keep your biological clock in sync.

You should also develop a sleep ritual by doing the same things each night just before bed. A routine cues the body to settle down for the night.

Try to unwind early in the evening so distractions and worries don't interfere with your sleep.

If you are sleeping as much as you need, but still find yourself tired during the day, you should consult your doctor. As they say at the sleep council, the "rest" is up to you!

For more information, go to http://www.Bettersleep.org.

Courtesy comes easily to Contracting employee

by Marshall Hudson Public Affairs

Tom Milligan, a procurement technician in Contracting, likes his job and it shows.

Milligan, the May Courtesy Employee of the Month, can regularly be seen standing behind the front desk at Contracting with a smile on his face.

"It's not hard to be happy or keep a good attitude here," said Milligan. "This job is very enjoyable, and I like working here."

"Tom always has a cheerful hello for all," said Maj. Kenneth L. Mitchell, chief, Contracting Operations Branch. "He has the unique ability to light up a room and make

your day just a little better by always engaging you in positive conversation."

Milligan began working in Contracting as a summer employee in 1993. Then in 1999, he retired from 35 years of teaching and became a full-time Corps employee.

Milligan said he misses some aspects of teaching

English at Southern High School in Baltimore City, but said this job is like dying and going to heaven.

Milligan shares the credit for

his disposition with his co-workers. "Everybody pitches in and helps out when we're shorthanded. We're busy, but people appreciate the work we do," he said.

That work can sometimes involve not so friendly contractors who show up just a couple of seconds late, according to Mitchell.

> But even in the most trying circumstances, Milligan manages to make bad situations bearable to all, he said

"I figure everybody is going to have a problem every once in a while," said Milligan. "I just try to accommodate them whenever possible."

Milligan and his wife, Mary, own a trailor in Ocean City and try to spend every other weekend there. This is not too difficult since he only works Tuesday through Friday.

His main hobbies, besides relaxing, are to catch up on his reading and ride his bike, although he is also learning how to kayak. The time he spends at the ocean, he admits, helps to keep him smiling. And thinking of his two daughters, Chris and Jennifer, also keeps him in a good frame of mind.



Tom Milligan

Construction begins on New Cumberland public safety center

The Defense community at New Cumberland, Pa., celebrated the start of construction for a new public safety center April 23.

Baltimore District is managing the construction of the 23,605-square foot facility for Defense Distribution Depot, Susquehanna, Pa.

Deputy District Engineer for Military Works Lt. Col. Gregory E. Stinner represented the District. He delivered remarks and wielded a shovel to break ground for the \$5.4 million building. The center will house the security office, the safety and environmental office and the fire department.

Stinner said that the new facility, while very important in its own right, is one example of the many military construction projects on which the District and the Depot are working to enhance the living and working conditions for the Defense community there.

The District completed an addition to the Eastern Distribution Center last year and is currently working on a number of family housing upgrade projects. Contracts to build a child development center and a controlled humidity warehouse will be let this summer.

A military entrance processing station and a special purpose warehouse are in design. Future plans include construction of other warehouses, sheds, a consolidated maintenance facility, billetting, a commissary and a physical fitness center. Old warehouses will be razed to make way for the new construction.

Stinner said that the men and women of Baltimore District are proud to be a part of the improvements at the Depot, and they remain committed to providing the best possible professional services.

Baltimore DE testifies to House subcommittee on DC schools

Baltimore District Engineer Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr. was one of six witnesses testifying March 29 before the DC Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, U.S. House of Representatives, on District of Columbia Public Schools and Charter Schools. Fiala'a testimony centered on the school system's capital improvement program, which Baltimore is executing in partnership with the school system.

The subcommittee chairman, Joe Knollenberg of Michigan, and member Chaka Fallah of Pennsylvania were the only two subcommittee members present throughout the session. Congressman John Olver of Massa-

chusetts participated briefly and asked several questions as did Congressman John Sweeney of New York.

Also testifying were Peggy Cooper Cafritz, president of the D.C. School Board; Dr. Paul Vance, superintendent of schools; Josephine Baker, chairman of the D.C. Public Charter School Board; George Brown, chairman of the D.C. Credit Enhancement Committee for the D.C. Public Charter Schools; and Laurent Ross, chairman of the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant Program.

The majority of the questions were directed to Dr. Vance and Ms. Cafritz, concerning curriculum, student/teacher ratios, cost

of transportation of special needs students, transportation concerns for the district as a whole, per pupil funding for the school system and how it compares to similar funding for surrounding school districts, teacher salaries, procurement problems when it comes to textbooks and supplies, contribution of federal agencies and other entities that do not pay property taxes to the school system, status of surplus property and school safety.

Fiala discussed the nature of the work the Corps has been doing for D.C. schools, the threestep approach that is being used, contracting and the accomplishments.

Titantic Science – 'The real artifacts, the true stories'

Titanic Science is a new, interactive 8,000 square foot exhibit that takes visitors through an unprecedented exploration of the collision with an iceberg, the sinking and the ultimate fate of the RMS Titanic and her passengers.

It runs at the Maryland Science Center through Sept. 3.

Personal effects from the passengers and crew, as well as actual parts of the ship will be dramatically presented. Each piece represents a "moment in time" and a life forever changed.

Ticket prices are as follows: adults, ages 13-59, \$12; children, ages 4-12, \$8; seniors, ages 60+ and military, \$11.

With your prepaid consignment/advance purchased admission ticket to the Maryland Science Center, you must pay a

surcharge of \$5 per person (adult or child); then you will receive a special "timed" ticket.

To purchase your ticket, contact Angie Blizzard, Room 7710K, 410-962-4649.

April 7 - Sept. 3, Mon - Fri, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat & Sun 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

June 17 - Sept. 3, Sun - Wed 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Thur - Sat 10 a.m. - 8p.m.

APG to celebrate Armed Forces Day May 19

Armed Forces Day begins with a 5K Fun Run at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Athletic Center on Saturday, May 19, at 9 a.m. Pre-register by calling 410-272-1600. It's free and the first 200 registered get a T-shirt.

The parade is in downtown Aberdeen at 2 p.m. Bands

performing in this year's parade include the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), Aberdeen High School and the Edgewood High School Band. Also performing is the World Champion Baltimore Ravens' Marching Band.

The 389th will put on their annual Armed Forces Day

Spectacular at Aberdeen High School at 7:30 p.m. This event will culminate with the 1812 Overture and a fireworks display. The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Salute Battery will provide the accompaniment to the 1812 Overture. Rain date is May 20.

Corps receives thanks, certificate of appreciation for Angel Tree participation

The Salvation Army sent a certificate of appreciation and the following letter to Baltimore District for the participation in the annual Angel Tree Program:

"Christmas 2000 may be behind us but our heartfelt appreciation to you will continue throughout the year.

"Because of you, needy families could have a very Merry Christmas! As we all know, the true spirit of Christmas can best be expressed when we give to others, and even more so when we give of ourselves.

"That makes you extra special since you gave so willingly to those in need. Your consideration and hard work continue to inspire us as we seek to help those less fortunate."

"I'd like to add my thanks and appreciation for your participation in this worthwhile program. Every year I'm amazed by your generosity and spirit of giving," said Susan Jones, coordinator of the program.

Corps employees speak at local schools

Steve Kopecky, Planning, delivered a career day presentation to students at Colonel Richardson Middle School in Federalsburg, Md., April 5 on behalf of the Baltimore District Speakers' Bureau. Kopecky spoke about his job as a geographer with the Corps of Engineers.

On April 24, three Speakers' Bureau volunteers talked to 10th grade classes during career day at Wilde Lake High School in Columbia, Md. **Kopecky** presented on biology. **Andrew Rak**, Engineering, spoke as a toxicologist. **Michelle Bistany**, Planning, discussed a career in biology.



Public Affairs Contingency Workshop — with the goal to "communicate the role of the Corps of Engineers Regiment as part of the total Army force structure during contingency operations," six North Atlantic Division public affairs chiefs and other PA professionals spent a week in Europe District with one mission: hammer out a communication plan. Once finished, the public affairs annex to the NAD Operations Plan (Swift Builder) will define the standards and procedures for all division public affairs operations during contingency deployments. Pictured (left to right): Peter Shugert, New York; Dave Lipsky, NADO; Torrie McAllister, Europe; Ed Voight, Philadelphia; Lucy Lather, Baltimore; Dana Finney, ERDC; Alicia Gregory, Europe; and Larry Rosenberg, New England (not pictured is Joan Kibler, TAC).

News you can use

Volunteers wanted for Habitat for Humanity

Real Estate Division is heading a District effort to recruit about 60 people for two Habitat for Humanity projects June 2-3 in Baltimore. Employees and family members are welcome. Skills are not required. Tools will be provided. To volunteer or ask for information, contact Carol Shutt, 410-854-7038.

District events

The annual District **golf tournament** will be held **June 1** at **Fort Meade**. Contact Dave Hand (8154), Jay Hershey (2996) or Nancy Jedziniak (2926) for information.

The **Organization Day** picnic is scheduled for **June 15** at **Blob's Park**.

Harvest for the Hungry By the conclusion of the Harvest for the Hungry campaign March 31, District employ-

ees had donated 3,051 canned items and \$1,002 in cash.

"District employees deserve thanks for their courageous support of the program," coordinator Harry Williams said. "We met our goal."

Security clearances

The Security Office staff will notify employees of impending expiration of their security clearances starting about six months in advance. A secret clearance is good for 10 years from the date of investigation. A top-secret clearance lasts for five years.



Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715
Official Business

Organization Day Picnic

Friday, June 15

9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blob's Park, Jessup, Md.

DJ with games and prizes for adults and children
Volleyball
Softball
Pitch-n-Putt
Horseshoes

Lots of fun stuff for kids

Food: hotdogs, hamburgers, bratwurst, sauerkraut, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, chips & pretzels, soft drinks & ice cream

Retirees invited

Call 410-962-4501 for ticket information.

